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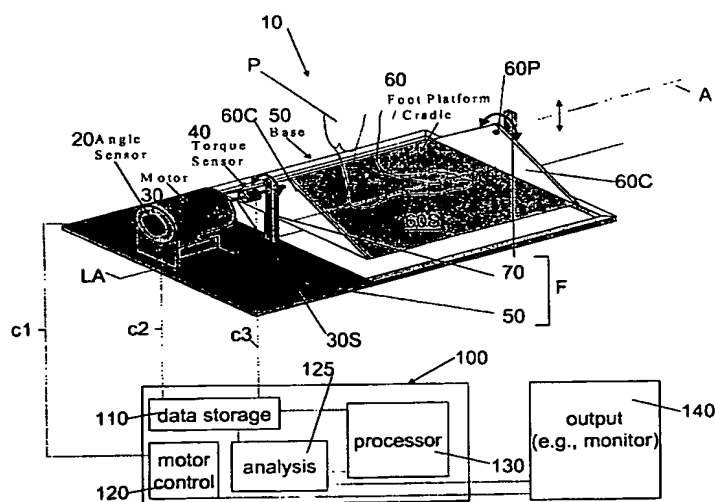
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MUSCULOSKELETAL DYNAMICS ASSESSMENT UNDER WEIGHT-BEARING CONDITIONS



(57) Abstract: In some illustrative embodiments, a method for the assessment of an ankle or the like includes: measuring muscu-  
loskeletal dynamics of an ankle or the like of a patient (P) with the patient (P) in a posture that is weight-bearing through the ankle  
or the like. In some embodiments, a device for assessing musculoskeletal dynamics of an ankle or the like of a patient (P) in a  
weight-bearing posture can include: a platform (60) to support a patient (P) in a weight-bearing posture; a drive mechanism (30) to  
impart pulse movement to the platform (60); a position sensor (20) to sense a position of the platform (60); a force or torque sensor  
(40) to sense a force or torque on the platform (60); a control system (100) to determine musculoskeletal dynamics based on outputs  
from the displacement sensor (20) and the force or torque sensor (40).

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL : 600/592

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 600/592, 587, 595; 33/512

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages                   | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X          | US 5,360,015 A (Heurte) 1 November 1994 (01.11.1994), column 2, line 14 - column 4, line 11.         | 1-3, 14 and 15        |
| X          | US 6,063,046 A (Allum) 16 May 2000 (16.05.2000), column 9, line 31 - column 12, line 65.             | 1-3, 12-16 and 25-30  |
| X          | US 6,152,890 A (Kupfer et al.) 28 November 2000 (28.11.2000), column 4, line 18 - column 8, line 31. | 1, 14 and 15          |

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